

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Antioch Missionary Baptist Church as they celebrate and dedicate the completion of their new church building and campus, the "Dwelling Place."

Founded in 1957, Antioch opened the doors of its first church building in 1961. Because of the growing congregation, construction of a larger building was necessary and began in 1973 and was completed in 1985. Antioch's membership continued to increase requiring the construction of a 2,000-seat sanctuary and administrative building which was completed in 1998.

In 1991, Pastor Arthur Jackson, III, became Senior Pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Under his leadership, "20/20 Vision" a capital stewardship campaign was launched. "20/20 Vision," a five-year plan was initiated in an effort to accommodate the growing membership by constructing a larger worship center, the "Dwelling Place." The "Dwelling Place" includes a 3,000-seat worship center and adds 56,000 square feet to the campus.

The completion of construction of this new building is a great feat to commemorate, as the congregation has been able to persevere through such difficult times during the Corona virus pandemic. After a year and a half of virtual services, Antioch's in-person services will resume in the new sanctuary. The "Dwelling Place" will make Antioch one of the largest churches in South Florida.

Under the leadership of Pastor Arthur Jackson, III, the church has been able to fulfill their "20/20 Vision" of building a campus that will glorify God throughout the entire process, expand and enhance the ministry and programs designed to advance God's Kingdom, and build in a manner which good stewardship will be exemplified.

Reverend Arthur Jackson, III has served as Senior Pastor/Teacher of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, since March 8, 1991. A native of South Florida, Pastor Jackson is the son of Reverend and Mrs. Arthur Jackson, Jr. Pastor Jackson was licensed as a Minister on October 9, 1988, at the New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Miami, Florida where he served as an Associate Minister under the leadership of his father, Rev. Arthur Jackson, Jr.

A man of great character, integrity, wisdom, and counsel, Pastor Jackson's consistent obedience to God has taken the Antioch congregation from the "Faithful Fifty" to a blossoming ministry of over 7,000 that continues to grow at record pace.

The Antioch Missionary Baptist Church is a Word-centered ministry existing to evangelize the lost, to equip and empower God's people,

and to lead them to eternal salvation in Christ Jesus.

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church has two locations in South Florida with campuses in Miami Gardens and Fort Lauderdale.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues and all Americans to please join me in recognizing the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church for its contributions and commitment to the citizens of our community, state and country.

HONORING THE BELLEVILLE FOOTBALL TEAM 2021 MHSAA DI- VISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Belleville Football Team, the victors of the 2021 MHSAA Division 1 Football State Championship. This team's tremendous accomplishment is worthy of commendation.

On November 27, 2021, the Belleville Tigers and Rochester Adams Highlanders met at Ford Field in Detroit for the Division 1 championship game. After being up 21-20 at the half, the Belleville Tigers quickly established a divisive lead in the third quarter. In a stunning victory, the Belleville Tigers won the state championship and defeated Rochester Adams with a score of 55-33.

In a season that was as challenging as it was rewarding, the Tigers' tireless dedication to football and commitment to teamwork paid off when they became state champions for the first time in school history. These players proved that with hard work and confidence in one's teammates, there is no obstacle that is too big to overcome. The Belleville Tigers have made our community proud, and we are all excited to celebrate this achievement alongside them.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Belleville Football Team as they celebrate winning the 2021 state championship. Please join me in congratulating the Tigers on a fantastic victory and wishing them the best of luck in the years ahead. Go Tigers.

HONORING THE SPRING GROVE GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Spring Grove Area High School girls' volleyball team for winning the PIAA Class 3A volleyball championship last month, with a 3-1 victory over Hampton.

Spring Grove's path to the championship was not always certain, as they faced difficult

competition in the state semifinals and quarterfinals. Thanks to their passion and hard work, the team rose to the challenges and emerged victorious, becoming state champions, and finishing out the season with a nearly undefeated record. Their win marks the first time that Spring Grove Area School District has ever won a state championship in volleyball and just the second time that the district has won a state championship. This is an incredible achievement and one of which the players, their parents, and head coach, Liz Zeigler, should be enormously proud.

Congratulations to the team for this accomplishment and I wish the graduating seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEG- ACY OF MOTHER PEARLIE MAE STRANGE

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mother Pearlle Mae Strange, a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother, friend, devout Christian, and prayer warrior.

Mother Strange was born on April 1, 1934 in Miami, Florida to the James and Arizona Joseph. Her upbringing was grounded by loving, hardworking parents, and a strong foundation in the home which was built upon Matthew 19:19, "Honor thy father and thy mother," and the old saying, "A family that prays together stays together." As the second of eleven siblings she assumed a nurturing and motherly role at an early age, and she used that same unselfish love from her parents and the strong foundation upon which her values were built to guide her in carrying out those roles.

By Divine Providence, Mother Strange met and later married the love of her life, Reverend Dr. Willie Lee Strange, Sr. and on May 2, 1955 the two were joined in holy matrimony. They were blessed with ten children, who blessed them with 27 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 3 great-great children and an additional great-great grandchild on the way.

As a loving and encouraging wife, Mother Strange supported her husband throughout his pastoral walk and served as First Lady of Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, New Mt. Moriah Holy Cross Missionary Baptist Church, and Greater Holy Cross Missionary Baptist church. She served in other areas of the Ministry including the Pastor Aid Board, the Women's Ministry, the Youth Ministry, and Sunday School Teacher.

Mother Strange later joined New Jerusalem Primitive Baptist Church under the leadership of Elder Dr. Kenneth A. Duke, Sr., where she served as Church Mother. In 2007, upon the pastoral installation of her son, Rev. Dr. Billy

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

W.L. Strange, Jr., she transferred her membership to Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church where, as an avid prayer warrior, she faithfully served in the Prayer Line Ministry and in the capacity of President of the Mother's Board until her passing.

Mother Strange matriculated through the Miami-Dade County Public School System. In her later years, after fulfilling the command to "train up a child . . .", she pursued a personal lifelong dream of becoming a Beautician. She enrolled in the Cosmetology Program at Miami Jackson Technical School and later obtained her Certificate as a Licensed Florida Cosmetologist in 1982. God blessed the works of her hands as she pursued her passion in the beauty industry by working at several salons, including the Theatrical Beauty Salon under the tutelage of the late Mrs. Ella Moncur. Mother Strange fulfilled her lifelong dream and established her own home-based salon.

Mother Pearlle Mae Strange was preceded in death by her husband, parents, four children, two grandsons, and four brothers. She leaves precious memories to be cherished by her sons: Rev. Billy W.L. Strange, Jr., Mareiece Strange (Earnestina), Larry Strange and Donald Strange; daughters Agnes Strange (Andy), Marva Bates (Michael), and Tonia Dudley (Billy); devoted sisters Luella Page, Francis Williams and Genice Scott; dedicated brothers Glenroy Joseph, Terry Joseph, Sr. (Diana) and Ernest Davis.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues and all Americans to please join me in honoring the late Mother Pearlle Mae Strange for her untiring love and dedication to her family and her community, and for her strong walk in Christian faith as she has dedicated her life to helping others.

LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. SHARON BAILEY

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Dr. Sharon Bailey.

Dr. Bailey, a proud Coloradan, Princeton graduate, and accomplished leader, dedicated her life to guaranteeing students of color, teachers, and administrators in Colorado and across the nation had the means necessary to both achieve and provide a high quality of education. She is survived by her husband and my friend, John, her three sons, five grandchildren, and a generation forever impacted by her influence.

Dr. Bailey was a passionate and dedicated leader, and a pivotal force on the Denver Public School Board to ensure quality education for all.

Throughout her life she championed the need for a deeper understanding of the experiences of the Black community in education and worked to ensure that all children are given the same opportunity to succeed.

The accomplishments of her life in service will continue to be felt throughout the state of Colorado for years to come, and her legacy will not soon be forgotten.

My thoughts and prayers are with John and all of Dr. Bailey's family and friends. As we

mourn her passing, we will remember her life and be inspired by her wisdom and tenacity.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOSEPH K. DOWLEY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, our Ways and Means family mourns the passing of Joseph K. Dowley. Joe was the Committee's Chief Counsel during the 1980s, who left us an important legacy in the Tax Reform Act of 1986, for which he did so much to enact into law.

Joe became Ways and Means Chief Counsel in 1984 after earning undergraduate and law degrees from Georgetown University, Army service in Vietnam, and employment as administrative assistant to my friend, former Chairman Dan Rostenkowski. He was a deft tax technician who not only knew what was broken, but also how to fix it. He never forgot that lawmaking is the art of the possible, and was ready when Chairman Rostenkowski accepted President Ronald Reagan's challenge to undertake comprehensive tax reform. His patient but relentless pursuit of that lofty goal helped create the political alchemy that made an initially improbable goal inevitable.

Success didn't come quickly or easily. As with any major piece of legislation, the process was a combination of the tense and the tedious. My colleagues writing the act recall it as a challenging time when long hours sometimes resulted in short tempers. But Joe's calm combination of competence and confidence kept the legislative train moving toward the inevitable compromises that signal success.

As the current Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, I now more deeply appreciate the role he played as an exemplary staffer, enabling those of us elected to enact legislation to do so by drawing the map that translated an idea into a legislative proposal that could become a workable law.

After leaving Capitol Hill, Joe continued to be an active member of Washington's tax community. His service to Congress wasn't easy, and there are few who have done it as well. He remains a role model for doing serious business in a humane way, and we will miss him. We join his wife Carol and his entire family in mourning his passing.

REMEMBERING FRED HIATT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Fred Hiatt, the longtime editorial page editor of the Washington Post whose authoritative and thoughtful voice on thousands of issues of public policy helped to strengthen our democracy. Mr. Hiatt, a 40-year veteran of the Post and a three-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, oversaw the opinion page and introduced the Post's audience to dozens of talented writers. An advocate of civil rights, democracy, human rights, and equality of op-

portunity, his thousands of unsigned editorials influenced public opinion and policy makers, including me. His forceful demand for justice when Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered will never be forgotten. He once said he believed there will always be a market for "really good, serious, readable, thoughtful, unpurchased, non-yelling opinion," and provided it daily on the Post's pages. I express my condolences to his wife Margaret Shapiro, and his children Alexandra, Joseph and Nathaniel, and his many friends and colleagues. His was a purposeful and dynamic life, and he will be missed.

HONORING MARCEL RIVAS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th Congressional District of the great State of Florida, it is my honor to rise to honor Marcel Rivas for his extraordinary work in adoption, permanency, and child welfare.

It was truly my privilege to nominate him for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Angel in Adoption award. Adoption gives hopeful parents an opportunity to raise a child they wouldn't have otherwise. It also provides children with loving families and hope for the future.

Over the course of his 27-year career as a child welfare professional, which includes 21 years at the Children's Home Society of Florida, Marcel has helped more than 3,000 children find their forever families. He also streamlined countywide systems to expedite permanency via adoptions and worked with the child welfare system of care partners, advocating locally and statewide for, and on behalf of, adoptive families to ensure their voices are valued and heard.

I applaud him for the particular time and attention that he has devoted to children with special needs and minority populations, who unfortunately are harder to place, but also have the greatest need for a safe and secure home environment.

At Citrus Family Care Network, he oversees the education department, as well as the largest Transitioning Youth Services Department in Florida, serving hundreds of young adults, ages 18 to 23, who have aged out of foster care.

This is a critical and pivotal point in these young lives, and as a former educator and someone who has advocated on behalf of children throughout my entire career. I am grateful that they have Marcel to help guide them to reach their full potential.

I thank Marcel Rivas for his hard work, dedication and all of the joy that he has helped bring to thousands of families. He truly is an angel.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues, my constituents of the 24th Congressional District of the great State of Florida, the residents of Miami-Dade and all Americans to please join me in celebrating Marcel Rivas' remarkable achievements.

NATIONAL PULSE MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (S. 1605).

The annual defense authorization bill is important legislation that guides Department of Defense policy and provides a framework for our Armed Forces for the year ahead. The House and Senate have worked together to craft this bipartisan piece of legislation that makes some significant policy changes impacting our service members and their families.

S. 1605 makes historic and sweeping changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice to combat sexual assault in the military by removing immediate Commanders from the decision-making chain regarding the prosecution of crimes like rape and sexual assault. As the Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, our subcommittee has worked to ensure the Department has had the proper resources to combat sexual assault and violence in the military and to support victims. However, the pervasive nature of this societal problem has plagued our military for too long and it is time to make significant changes to the way these crimes are adjudicated. S. 1605 takes this first step, and I am proud of the bipartisan and bicameral work that has been done to begin to address this.

S. 1605 supports our men and women in uniform and their families by authorizing a well-deserved 2.7 percent pay increase. It also contains several important provisions to promote inclusion and diversity within our Armed Forces including authorizing additional support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The composition of America's Armed Forces and its leadership must reflect the increasing diversity of our society and this legislation promotes diversity and inclusion within the Services.

As our planet continues to face the devastating impacts of climate change, it is critical that the Department of Defense act. Combating climate change isn't about engaging in social politics, it is a matter of national security. The Department has too many installations that are susceptible to extreme weather events, which leads to too many days when our troops cannot train. And, as the largest procurer of energy in the federal government, the Department must become more energy efficient. S. 1605 makes key investments and authorizes specific actions to address the threat climate change poses to our national security and bolster energy resiliency across the Department of Defense. Additionally, S. 1605 addresses the long-term impacts of PFAS/PFOA contamination in our communities surrounding military installations. The legislation creates a Department Task Force on PFAS to spearhead DoD's response, as well as authorizes \$517 million above the President's Budget Request for PFAS remediation projects.

Additionally, this legislation includes Department of State Authorizations that bolsters our essential diplomatic authorities to emphasize the whole of government approach to our na-

tional security. This is critically important in the wake of the serious damage caused to the Department of State and our international diplomatic efforts by the Trump administration. I commend the Biden administration's efforts to refocus on diplomacy, on reengaging in our alliances, and on rebuilding the State Department.

While I am supporting this legislation and many of the good provisions contained in it, this bill does have areas that I think could have been greatly improved. First, this legislation does not support the Biden administration's efforts to finally close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The detention facility has been a stain on our global reputation and a detriment to our national security for two decades. I included language in the Fiscal Year 2022 Defense Appropriations Act that would allow for the closure of the facility, so I am deeply disappointed to see existing language on Guantanamo Bay maintained in S. 1605.

Second, I am disappointed that the Congress continues to avoid our responsibility to sunset existing Authorizations of Use of Military Force (AUMF). The 2001 and 2002 AUMF's are out of date and have been stretched and reinterpreted by four separate administrations. It is long past time for Congress to have a comprehensive discussion on our Constitutional responsibility to authorize force. That includes having a frank discussion on how drones are utilized by the military and the Intelligence Community. If a new AUMF is necessary, then Congress needs to have the courage to have that debate in public and come to a decision.

Last, while S. 1605 contains critically important policy provisions that support our future national security needs, I believe that Congress must be a good steward of taxpayer dollars. That is why I continue to be supportive of the topline funding number in President Biden's FY22 budget request for the Department of Defense and the number contained in the Fiscal Year 2022 Defense Appropriations Act produced by the House of Representatives. While drafting the defense appropriations act this past summer, the committee had serious conversations and made tough, but necessary, decisions regarding our national security budget. The defense appropriations bill that the House produced reflects a balanced approach in appropriately funding our national security while allowing for necessary increases in domestic priorities in support of the American people here at home. We also need to have an honest discussion about having a new round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) in line with the Department of Defense's recommendations. A new BRAC round could save taxpayers billions of dollars that could be better spent elsewhere.

While the authorizers have shared their ideas on how to fund the military in this legislation, it is the Appropriations Committee that will ultimately decide how to fund our Armed Forces. As the FY22 appropriations process moves forward, I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that the Department of Defense is funded responsibly and that the interests of American people are protected.

Madam Speaker, I urge a yes vote on this legislation.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO ANN LIMJOCO FOR TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ann Limjoco, a dedicated public servant who spent twenty years on my staff assisting constituents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. Ann will be starting a new chapter in the new year, and I wish her success and happiness moving forward.

Ann served many years as the Suburban Director on my district staff. Overseeing my suburban operations, Ann worked closely with municipalities from Evanston to Arlington Heights and everywhere in between. She built strong relationships with elected officials at all levels of government and was a well-known face at events throughout the district. When municipalities needed federal assistance or input, they knew that Ann was a reliable ally and an open door.

Ann regularly worked with other members of my staff to organize outreach events throughout the 9th District. She played an instrumental role in carrying out dozens of hiring events, community resource fairs, municipal information events, and many others. Ann often spoke on my behalf, representing me with professionalism and competence.

Ann was my liaison to the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC), an organization that spent many years working to address and alleviate the negative impacts of O'Hare Airport on surrounding suburbs. She was a true expert in this field and I relied on her for up-to-date information on an issue that many of my constituents deal with day in and day out.

In addition to outreach and relationship building efforts, Ann was a vigorous advocate for constituents needing assistance with problems related to taxes, immigration, the postal service, and a host of other issues. All told, she handled over three thousand constituent cases, and I have no doubt that her hard work changed many lives for the better. Ann also helped run an excellent intern program and helped train and mentor many young people through this program.

My staff and I will undoubtedly feel the loss of Ann's deep knowledge and many years of experience. I have no doubt that Ann will succeed at whatever she sets her mind to.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH
BIRTHDAY OF CLARA BARTON

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the upcoming 200th birthday of Clara Barton and the efforts of the Bordentown Historical Society to have the City of Bordentown, New Jersey officially proclaim December 4, Clara Barton Day.

Clara Barton was a trailblazer throughout her life, with a commitment and passion for

humanitarian work and uplifting others. She became one of the first women ever to work in the United States federal government, working as a recording clerk in the United States Patent Office. She would go on to become an advocate for public education and in 1853 became involved in helping the City of Bordentown establish the first ever public school in New Jersey. Perhaps, though, she remains best known for her work as a nurse during the Civil War; learning from those experiences to found the American Red Cross in 1881.

I am incredibly proud of the work the Bordentown Historical Society is doing to preserve the original Clara Barton schoolhouse, that remains standing in downtown Bordentown, and her legacy as an American pioneer.

As the Bordentown Historical Society prepares to celebrate the official proclamation of Clara Barton Day this December 4, I extend my best wishes to the members of the society and my neighbors in Bordentown.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. ENID PINKNEY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to commemorate the 90th Birthday of Dr. Enid Pinkney.

Whereas, Enid Curtis Pinkney was born October 15, 1931, in the city of Miami's Overtown neighborhood. She is the third of four children born to Bahamian parents, Lenora and Henry Curtis. She graduated from the all-black Booker T. Washington High School in 1949 and went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree from Talladega College (Talladega, Alabama) in Social Science. She continued her education and earned a Master of Science degree from Barry University (Miami, Florida) in Guidance and Counseling and an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humane Letters from St. Thomas University (Miami, Florida). Dr. Pinkney served on the Executive Board of the National Alumni Association of Talladega College, has been inducted into the Talladega College Hall of Fame, and received the Southern Regional Outstanding Alumni award from the National Alumni of Talladega College. The Enid Curtis Pinkney Humanitarian Awards Luncheon was named in her honor by the Miami Talladega College Alumni Association; and

Whereas, due to her civic involvement and knowledge as a historian, Dr. Pinkney was featured in Miami in Our Own Words, by the Miami Herald, Profiles of Miami by the University of Miami, and has been a columnist for The Miami Times. She wrote a chapter in Miami's Historic Neighborhoods entitled "Brownsville." Dr. Pinkney conducted the African American Research for Burials in the City Cemetery, 1896 through 1990. She produced the television program Resurrection: Blacks Buried in the City Cemetery for WPXM TV and a twelve-part series on Historical Perspectives of Brownsville for WLRN TV; and

Whereas, Dr. Pinkney worked aggressively over the years to ensure that the role of Afri-

can Americans in Miami's history is acknowledged and preserved. She appeared in several documentaries detailing Miami's history including Golden Side of the Tracks, a film Documentary about "Overtown," which was directed by David Weintraub. More recently she appeared in a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. documentary regarding his visits to Miami, Florida, produced by WLRN TV and directed by Mia Lorenzo. Dr. Pinkney also produced the documentary the Hampton House which aired on WLRN TV; and

Whereas, Dr. Pinkney worked as a social worker from 1953 to 1955, after which she worked in the Dade County Public School System until she retired, in 1991, as Assistant Principal at South Miami Middle School. In the mid-1980s, she joined the Dade Heritage Trust historic preservation organization, and in 1998 was elected the first black president of the Trust leading the community in saving the Miami Circle from demolition. She also served as the first African American president of Natives of Dade. Under Dr. Pinkney's leadership, the Virginia Key Beach Park Trust prevented the City of Miami from building an Ecotourist Resort on "Colored" Beach. Her strong faith in God led her to become a founding and charter member of The Church of The Open Door, (Congregational) United Church of Christ, where she served as its first clerk. Dr. Pinkney was a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ for two terms, and served on the Executive Council, the Board of Common Services, and General Ministries; and

Whereas, Dr. Pinkney is a recipient of the "Distinguished Alumni Award" from the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education. She served as Founding President/CEO of The Historic Hampton House Community Trust, Inc. where she saved the Historic Hampton House Motel from demolition, and persuaded Miami Dade County to buy the building to restore it. Today, it is the only motel in Miami from the days of segregation. Dr. Pinkney is now President Emeritus of the Historic Hampton House; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, FREDERICA S. WILSON, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, am proud to recognize Dr. Enid Pinkney on her 90th birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE 13TH ANNUAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 18, 2021, Brevard County families, businesses and local community organizations will gather to celebrate the 13th Annual Family Christmas Extravaganza.

Having become one of the largest Christmas celebrations on the Space Coast, this year's event will be bigger and better than ever, promising a place for family and friends to partake in a wide variety of holiday festivities to get them in the Christmas spirit.

This year's event will take place at Fred Poppe Regional Park in Palm Bay from 11:00

a.m.-5:00 p.m. and will be completely free of charge thanks to over 60 local businesses and organizations. As a demonstration of love, The House, Eastwind Pentecostal, Victory in Christ Jesus, Elevation, Center of Love Church, Grace Bible, Jornada al Cielo, Church on the Rock, His Place Ministries, Christ is the Answer (CITA), Bay West, and Wings of Grace have all united to bring the 13th Annual Family Christmas Extravaganza to our City and County.

Because of their generous contributions, families will be able to enjoy food galore, ride horses, and see live entertainment. This year's Family Christmas Extravaganza will even feature God in a Box production by ANEW Life International, a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament by Court Kingz, and an acrobatic show by Cirque Adventure.

The House of Palm Bay, City of Palm Bay Parks and Recreation, along with several community business partners such as Thrifty Specialty Produce, Chick-Fil-A, Gator Automotive, Ben & Jerry's, The Source, and Dignity Foods are just among the few names of many we must thank for providing the venue and resources to make the celebration unforgettable.

Senior Pastor Ken Delgado of the House at Palm Bay said in anticipation of the event, "With today's news being filled with division, contention and expressions of hatred, it is exciting to see the City of Palm Bay, along with its businesses and citizens, create an event where love, joy and peace is expressed. The Family Christmas Extravaganza is the greatest expression that so many people yearn for and is what the angels proclaimed at the birth of Jesus saying, 'Peace and good will towards all men.'"

The City of Palm Bay issued a proclamation in support for this year's celebration, proclaiming December 18, 2021, Family Christmas Extravaganza Day.

The spirit of the holidays is all about giving and spending time with loved ones. This year's Extravaganza brings our community together to remind us of that.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting all those who are doing their part to spread the Christmas spirit this holiday season and those who have worked so hard to make the 13th Annual Family Christmas Extravaganza possible.

ADDITIONAL WAIVERS FOR S. 610,
H.R. 6119, AND H.R. 3684

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, when the Committee on Rules filed its report (House Report 117-205) to accompany House Resolution 838, the Committee was unaware that the waiver of all points of order against consideration of S. 610 included a waiver of the following:

Section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits consideration of legislation providing new budget authority in excess of a 302(a) or 302(b) allocation of such authority.

When the Committee on Rules filed its report (House Report 117-201) to accompany House Resolution 829, the Committee was unaware that the waiver of all points of order

against consideration of H.R. 6119 included waivers of the following:

Clause 10 of rule XXI, which prohibits consideration of a measure that has a net effect of increasing the deficit or reducing the surplus over the five- or 10-year period; and

Section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits consideration of legislation providing new budget authority in excess of a 302(a) or 302(b) allocation of such authority.

When the Committee on Rules filed its report (House Report 117-74) to accompany House Resolution 504, the Committee was unaware that the waiver of all points of order against consideration of H.R. 3684 included a waiver of the following:

Section 425 of the Budget Act, which prohibits consideration of (1) any legislation referred by a committee until the committee publishes the CBO's statement on the direct costs of Federal mandates and (2) any legislation that would increase the direct costs of Federal intergovernmental mandates beyond \$50,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) unless the legislation provides for new budget authority or the legislation appropriates sufficient funds to cover the new costs.

HONORING DR. ANUJ BHARGAVA AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dr. Anuj Bhargava as Iowan of the Week. November is diabetes awareness month, and Dr. Bhargava has done more than bring awareness to diabetes, he has dedicated his life to finding a cure and fighting for those that have been impacted by diabetes.

Dr. Bhargava is the founder of Iowa Diabetes, an organization that has now been around for more than 14 years. Within the first few years, their research center started over 50 studies and became a leading diabetes research center in Iowa. As they started more trials and hired more staff members, it was clear that more office and patient care space was needed. As of today, they have started more than 100 diabetes studies and served more than 1,600 patients in Central Iowa. Dr. Bhargava believes that a comprehensive approach is required to change diabetes and that technology, education, and research should play a role in this change. Additionally, in 2017 Iowa Diabetes launched Iowa Diabetes Portal, which is a free tool they provide patients to help them easily manage sugars, meds, labs, activity, and more. In 2019, they launched Iowa Diabetes Care, a non-traditional care management system.

More than 300,000 Iowans have diabetes, and that number is only expected to grow. At Iowa Diabetes, it is Dr. Bhargava's goal to improve the lives of Iowans affected by diabetes through the services provided by their organization. Dr. Bhargava is hopeful that Iowa Diabetes and all that it offers can make an impact on the hundreds of thousands of people with diabetes in Iowa.

I will always fight for organizations like Iowa Diabetes and leaders like Dr. Bhargava and continue to support them in Congress by pro-

moting legislation that will support our communities that need it the most. It is my pleasure to recognize Dr. Anuj Bhargava as Iowan of the Week.

CELEBRATING THE LATE MS. JOSEPHINE BAKER

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th Congressional District of the great State of Florida, it is my honor to rise in celebration of the late Ms. Josephine Baker as she becomes the first black woman to rest in the Pantheon in Paris, France.

It is truly a privilege to honor and recognize Ms. Baker for her tremendous work of breaking the boundaries of segregation. Ms. Baker was a performer like no other. She refused to sign contracts with venues that were segregated. By refusing to perform in racially segregated theaters, staying in the finest hotels and eating in the best restaurants, Josephine wanted to show that skin color did not imply differential treatment and was no obstacle to wealth and fame.

In 1951, she convinced the Copa City Club, the epicenter of Miami Beach's nightlife, to open its doors to all. Ms. Baker's shows were a huge success and the beginning of a new social life for the communities of the area.

Her boldness and sense of glamour resonated with the new Art Deco movement with its equally revolutionary architecture inspired by bold and colorful geometric shapes. Art Deco was a perfect representation of the modern urban life and is now part of the heritage of Miami Beach.

Ms. Baker believed in fighting for what's right. During World War II, Josephine Baker joined the French Resistance hiding underground fighters and Jews in the Château des Milandes in the Périgord region. She became a pilot for the French Forces Libres in Morocco and concealed information in her musical scores that she passed on to the Allies. She was awarded the Legion of Honor and the Médaille de la Résistance, upon the Liberation.

Her humanist philosophy spilled over into her private life. Starting in 1953, Josephine Baker built a utopian family by adopting twelve children from all over the world, which gave people food for thought in the 50s and 60s. The Rainbow Tribe was the realization of the anti-racial, peaceful dream of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s universal brotherhood.

Seventy years after breaking the rule of segregated audiences in Miami Beach clubs, Josephine Baker is the first black woman to be recognized as a great figure in the Pantheon in Paris, France. The Pantheon has become a true symbol of the French Republic. This 'Temple of Humanity' is now a mausoleum for illustrious figures of the Enlightenment and for those who made their mark in the country's history such as inventors, writers and Human Rights activists.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues, my constituents of the 24th Congressional District of the great State of Florida, the residents of Miami-Dade and all Americans to please join me in celebrating Ms. Josephine Baker's remarkable achievements.

74TH BIRTHDAY OF JIMMY LAI
AND HIS IMPRISONMENT BY CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN HONG KONG

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, Mr. Jimmy Lai, the renowned founder of Apple Daily and prominent supporter of democracy, turns 74 today. A brave Beijing critic and a devout Catholic, Mr. Lai has been on the forefront of fighting for press freedom. Consequently, he was taken into custody and denied bail by Hong Kong authorities acting at the apparent behest of the Chinese Communist Party more than a year ago.

Under the so-called "national security law," Beijing has been punishing anything it considers remotely resembling the vague crimes of "secession," "subversion," "terrorism" and "collusion with foreign forces" with penalties up to life imprisonment. According to Joanna Chiu, a former Hong Kong-based journalist who testified before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, international engagement including with the United Nations or foreign governments—can now be criminalized as "collusion with foreign forces."

Despite deteriorating health and having to spend a second holiday season in a cold prison cell since his arrest, Mr. Lai remains unbroken. He wrote in a letter from prison in April 2021, "A journalist's responsibility [is] to uphold justice. The era is falling apart before us, and it is time for us to stand tall." Indeed, he stands for something larger than himself.

Lai's commitment to press freedom and democratic principles began long before the national security law was passed. He has been an outspoken critic of Beijing's control over Hong Kong and a high-profile supporter of the pro-democracy movement. After the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, Lai became an ardent critic of the Beijing government, and left the retail industry where he made his fortune for media and politics. He founded Next Media and in 1995, launched Apple Daily, which became Hong Kong's most prominent pro-democracy newspaper.

For his work and unstoppable dedication to democratic values, Mr. Lai was just awarded the World Association of News Publishers' highest honor for his sacrifice in the cause of press freedom.

The Golden Pen of Freedom is the Association's annual award recognizing individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions in the defense and promotion of press freedom. We also need to remember that there are hundreds of other "Jimmy Lais" in Hong Kong and beyond, who are determined to stand for freedom of press.

Indeed, at a hearing of the bipartisan Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission that I chaired on October 14 of this year, on the State of Civil and Political Rights in Hong Kong, we learned that Hong Kong reportedly has more journalists in jail per capita than any other place on earth.

We cannot forget these imprisoned journalists either, and we should say their names: Edmund Wan You-sing, Ryan Law, Cheung Kim Hung, Chan Pui-man, Lam Man Chung, Fung Wai Kong, Yeung Ching-kee, and Gwyneth Ho.

These brave journalists continue to be imprisoned, while others have been released on bail awaiting trial.

We will continue to keep Jimmy in our prayers and urge that he be released along with the other Hong Kong journalists and democracy advocates unjustly imprisoned.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF BENJAMIN V. GOODELL VFW POST 552

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Benjamin V. Goodell VFW Post 552 as it celebrates its 90th anniversary. This tremendous milestone is worthy of commendation.

On July 31, 1931, twenty members of the Lincoln Park community came together to establish VFW Post 552 in old Lafayette School. In the following years, the post quickly flourished and changed locations to accommodate its expanding membership, especially in the aftermath of World War II. Post 552 was the fastest-growing post in the state, with peak membership of around 700 members by 1975.

Throughout the years, Post 552 has celebrated many victories, held countless events, and provided invaluable support to our community's devoted veterans. For nine decades, Post 552's leadership has made a profound difference in Lincoln Park and Southeast Michigan. It played a critical role in establishing the local VA Hospitals, coordinating the annual Lincoln Park Memorial Day Parade, and sponsoring a number of efforts that have made the city a better place. Post 552 has earned a host of accolades and awards in recognition of these achievements, and I am proud that our community is home to such a dedicated and patriotic group.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Benjamin V. Goodell Post 552 on its 90th anniversary. Post 552 is a pillar of the community, and we are grateful for the important role it has played in veterans' lives throughout the past nine decades. Please join me in celebrating Post 552 on this special occasion. We all are looking forward to celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2031.

IN RECOGNITION OF NICOLE MONTNA VAN VLECK, 2021 RICE FARMER OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of my constituent and friend Nicole Montna Van Vleck. Nicole was recently awarded the Rice Farmer of the Year award by Horizon Ag, Rice Farming, and USA Rice.

The Montna Family began their rice operation in the late 1930s in Sutter County, California. By the 1970s Nicole's father, Al Montna, took over the ranch from his parents Dutch and Emma. Eventually, Al sold much of the land to his daughters Nicole and Michelle.

Nicole currently serves as president and CEO of Montna Farms. Montna Farms produces predominately short-grain rice, that is milled in Williams, California and then distributed throughout the United States and internationally.

Nicole makes conservation a priority at Montna Farms. In 2000, a working lands easement was implemented on the ranch to preserve the Pacific Flyway. Nicole and Montna Farms has also worked in partnership with numerous environmental organizations, such as Nature Conservancy, California Waterfowl Association, the National Audubon Society, California Trout and Point Blue, to ensure lands and wildlife are protected in and around their operation.

Nicole has also dedicated herself to the rice industry by serving on numerous boards and committees, including: chair of the California Rice Industry Association, immediate past chair of California Producers Group and USA Rice Farmers, California Rice Commission, USA Rice Federation, the Rice Foundation, past chair of USA Rice Communication Committee, past co-chair Rice Sustainability and Competitiveness Task Force, past chair of state Farm Service Agency and State Fair ag advisory board, Northern California Water Association, UC Davis Dean's advisory board, and River Valley Community Bank board.

I congratulate Nicole on her achievement of Rice Farmer of the Year and I look forward to continue to work with her to support the California rice industry.

KAZAKHSTAN'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, on December 16, 2021, the Republic of Kazakhstan will celebrate its 30th year of independence from the former Soviet Union. I congratulate President Kassim-Jomart Tokayev and Kazakhstan's people for the notable progress they have made as a nation in that short period of time.

Strategically located between Europe, China, Russia, and the Middle East, Kazakhstan has been a global crossroads for centuries. Clearly, its place in the world today is more significant than ever. Kazakhstan's vibrant economy—the largest by far in Central Asia—enhances the country's strategic importance.

One of Kazakhstan's greatest and most enduring achievements since independence has been its renunciation of nuclear weapons. Upon dissolution of the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan possessed the 4th largest nuclear arsenal in the world, and since then has maintained a consistent policy advocating nuclear non-proliferation. In 2006, Kazakhstan joined with the four other central Asian countries to sign The Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, committing to ban production, acquisition, or deployment of nuclear weapons across their territory. The Republic continues to lead in non-proliferation efforts.

Kazakhstan has been a good friend to the United States over these thirty years, standing with us after 9/11, supporting our military ef-

forts both in Iraq and in Afghanistan, and working actively with the U.S. and other countries to counter global terrorism. Since 2013, Kazakhstan has been an active participant in the CS+1 format, which is the platform for dialogue and cooperation between the U.S. and the five Central Asian nations. Further, in 2018, the United States and Kazakhstan entered into an Enhanced Strategic Partnership.

In just 30 years, Kazakhstan has achieved great things and has taken its place in the international community of nations. I appreciate the engagement of Kazakhstan with the U.S. on defense, security, counterterrorism, and on many other areas of mutual interest. I offer my best wishes to President Tokayev, to Ambassador Ashikbayev, and to the people of Kazakhstan on their Independence Day.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE YANDY CHIRINO

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize and honor the late Yandy Chirino, a police officer, beloved son, brother, friend and part of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence family.

Whereas, Yandy Chirino was born on March 14, 1993, in Havana, Cuba. He migrated to Miami, Florida, with his parents as a young child and became a United States citizen at age ten; and

Whereas, Officer Chirino graduated in 2011 from Coral Park High School, where he was inducted into the 5000 Role Models of Excellence. In 2015, he went on to study criminal justice at Florida International University and earned a bachelor's degree. He also was an MVP athlete who played volleyball, soccer, baseball, and basketball; and

Whereas, after graduating from the police academy, in 2017, Officer Chirino fulfilled his dream of becoming a police officer when he joined the Hollywood Police Department. Throughout his career, Officer Chirino earned many commendations, and he was recognized for his exceptional teamwork and dedication. In June 2020, he was named "Officer of the Month." He served the Hollywood Police Department with pride and professionalism, and had an incredible work ethic; and

Whereas, Officer Chirino was adventurous. His YouTube videos show him paragliding in Colombia, flying a Cessna airplane in South Florida, and jet-skiing in Lake Powell, a reservoir on the border of Utah and Arizona; and

Whereas, Officer Chirino leaves to cherish his fond memories his parents, sister, two nephews, girlfriend, friends, all of fellow officers at the Hollywood Police Department and his 5000 Role Models of Excellence family; and now, therefore be it

Resolved, That I, FREDERICA S. WILSON, a member of the United States House of Representatives representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, am honored to recognize the late Officer Yandy Chirino for his commitment, dedication and service to our community.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DEREK
HERRERA AS MY CONSTITUENT
OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Marine Corps Bronze Star veteran, Captain Derek Herrera, for my November Constituent of the Month. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy, Captain Herrera attended The Basic School and Infantry Officers Course in Quantico, Virginia. From then on, he was deployed on several missions, the last of these in June of 2012 in Afghanistan. On this mission, Captain Herrera was shot and paralyzed from the chest down. He was medically evacuated back to the United States.

While he was determined to walk again, Captain Herrera came to realize that his injury was more permanent than he anticipated. With this new found understanding and a new mission, Herrera refused to give up his dream of finding normalcy, and in this process, discovered his new life's calling. Captain Herrera began forging his new path by pursuing a Master of Business Administration at UCLA and founding UroDev Medical, a company that designs and manufactures innovative solutions for men living with Urinary Retention.

As he learned more about medical research and technology, Captain Herrera became intrigued not only by its' potential to help him, but also others with disabilities, including his fellow injured veterans. That's when Captain Herrera discovered the ReWalk Exoskeleton, a product that enables Captain Herrera to walk, stand, and sit. Although this technology isn't permanent, Herrera saw a space and opportunity within the medical technology realm to give veterans injured in combat, another chance to feel a semblance of normalcy.

Overcoming a life-changing injury is an incredible challenge, and I am inspired by the strength and perseverance Captain Herrera has embodied in his recovery journey and beyond. I thank Captain Herrera for his service to our country and his dedication to helping other veterans in similar circumstances. Captain Herrera's personal decorations are a testament to his selfless service and sacrifice, including the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Bronze Star (with combat distinguishing device), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. As long as I have the privilege to serve as Vice Chairman on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I will look to heroes like Captain Herrera as an exemplary model of what it means to serve and support our veterans with reverence and resolve. I am deeply grateful for Captain Herrera's continued service in helping our veterans, and I'm proud to recognize him as my Constituent of the Month.

HONORING "PATRIA Y VIDA"
(HOMELAND AND LIFE)

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the anthem of freedom, "Patria y Vida" (Homeland and Life) which became a mantra for thousands of Cubans who took to the streets to protest the brutal and murderous Cuban dictatorship.

The song is a collaboration between Cuban musicians in exile and on the island who have come together in opposition to the regime, and who together are demanding freedom of expression and respect for human rights. The co-authors are Yotuel Romero, Beatriz Luengo, Maykel Osorbo, Eliecer Marquez Duany "El Funky", Descemer Bueno, Alexander Delgado and Randy Malcom. On November 18, 2021, "Patria y Vida" received two awards, Song of the Year and Best Urban Song at the 22nd Annual Latin Grammy Awards.

Today, one of the co-authors of "Patria y Vida," Maykel Castillo Pérez (commonly known as Maykel Osorbo), and Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara of the San Isidro Movement who appears in the music video, remain incarcerated in maximum security prisons in Cuba for simply participating in this song and speaking out against oppression. Another co-author, Eliecer Marquez Duany "El Funky," was sent into exile after being held on house arrest. These courageous artists suffer simply for voicing the fundamental freedoms that are the inherent rights of every person. They, and so many others in Cuba, have risked everything for freedom.

Madam Speaker, the Cuban people will be free. Toward that goal, I am honored to highlight the importance of a song that has become an anthem for a movement, and for so many Cubans who are demanding freedom on the island. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this noble cause, in demanding that all political prisoners are released, basic rights to expression, assembly, and belief are respected, and free, fair and multiparty elections are scheduled.

PATRIA Y VIDA (HOMELAND AND LIFE)

Y eres tú mi canto de sirena (And you are my siren call)

Porque con tu voz se van mis penas (Because with your voice my sorrows go away)

Y este sentimiento ya está añejo (And this feeling is already old)

Tú me dueles tanto aunque estés lejos (You hurt me so much, even though you are far away)

Hoy yo te invito a caminar por mis solares (Today I invite you to walk through my neighborhoods)

Pa' demostrarte de que sirven tus ideales (To show you what good your ideals are for)

Somos humanos aunque no pensemos iguales (We are human although we do not think alike)

No nos tratemos ni dañemos como animales (Let's not treat or hurt each other like animals)

Esta es mi forma de decírtelo (This is my way of telling you)

Llora mi pueblo y siento yo su voz (My people cry and I feel their voice)

Tu cinco nueve, yo doble dos (You five nine, me double twos)

Sesenta años trancado el dominó (Sixty years of a domino stalemate)

Bombo y platillo a los quinientos de la Habana (Pomp and circumstance for the five hundred (years) of Havana)

Mientras en casa en las cazuelas ya no tienen jama (While the pots at home no longer have food)

¿Qué celebramos si la gente anda deprisa? (What do we celebrate if folks are scrambling?)

Cambiando al Che Guevara y a Martí por la divisa (Trading Che Guevara and Martí for currency)

Todo ha cambiado ya no es lo mismo (Everything has changed, nothing is the same)

Entre tú y yo hay un abismo (Between you and me there is an abyss)

Publicidad de un paraiso en Varadero (Advertising a paradise in Varadero)

Mientras las madres lloran por sus hijos que se fueron (While mothers cry for their children who are gone)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo doble dos (It's over, you five nine, me double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancado el dominó, mira (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate, watch)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo doble dos (It's over, you five nine, me double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancando el dominó (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate)

Somos artistas, somos sensibilidad (We are artists, we are sensitivity)

La historia verdadera, no la mal contada (The true story, not the one that's falsely told)

Somos la dignidad de un pueblo entero pisoteado (We are the dignity of an entire people trampled on)

A punta de pistola y de palabras que aún son nada (At gunpoint and with words that are still worthless)

No más mentiras (No more lies)

Mi pueblo pide libertad, no más doctrinas (My people call for freedom, no more doctrines)

Ya no gritemos patria o muerte sino patria y vida (We no longer shout homeland or death, instead homeland and life)

Y empezará a construir lo que soñamos (And start building what we dream of)

Lo que destruyeron con sus manos (What they destroyed with their hands)

Que no siga corriendo la sangre (No more bloodshed)

Por querer pensar diferente (For wanting to think differently)

¿Quién le dijo que Cuba es de ustedes? (Who told you Cuba is yours?)

Si mi Cuba es de toda mi gente (Cuba belongs to all my people)

Se acabó, ya se venció tu tiempo, se rompió el silencio (It's over, your time has run out, the silence has been broken)

Ya se acabó, ya se acabó la risa y el llanto ya está corriendo (It's over, the laughs are over and the tears are already flowing)

Se acabó, y no tenemos miedo, se acabó el engaño (It's over, and we're not afraid, the deception is over)

Ya se acabó, son sesenta y dos haciendo daño (It's over, it's been sixty-two (years) doing harm)

Allí vivimos con la incertidumbre del pasado, plantado (We live with the uncertainty of the past, in a hunger strike)

Quince amigos puestos, listos pa' morirnos (Fifteen friends on (hunger) strike, ready to die)

Izamos la bandera todavía la represión del régimen al día (We raise the flag, the repression from the regime continues daily)

Anamely Ramos firme con su poesía (Anamely Ramos steady with her poetry)

Omara Ruiz Urquiola dándonos aliento de vida (Omara Ruiz Urquiola giving us strength of life)

Rompieron nuestra puerta, violaron nuestro templo (They kicked down our door, they violated our temple)

Y el mundo está consciente (And the world is aware)

De que el Movimiento San Isidro continúa puesto (The San Isidro Movement continues firm)

Seguimos en las mismas, la seguridad metiendo prisma (We are in the same situation, state security watching)

Esas cosas a mí como me indignan, se acabó el enigma (These things outrage me; the enigma is over)

Ya sa' tu revolución maligna, soy Funky style, aquí tienes mi firma (Enough of your evil revolution, I am Funky style, here is my signature)

Ya ustedes están sobrando, ya no le queda nada, ya se van bajando (You all are useless, you have nothing left, you're in decline)

El pueblo se cansó de estar aguantando (The people are tired of enduring)

Un nuevo amanecer estamos esperando (We are awaiting a new dawn)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo doble dos (It's over, your five nine, me, double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancado el dominó, mira (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate, watch)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo, doble dos (It's over, your five nine, me, double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancado el dominó (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Sesenta años trancado el dominó (Sixty years of a domino stalemate)

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, this month marks the 30th anniversary of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which celebrates its Independence Day on December 16 each year. The United States was the first nation to formally recognize Kazakhstan's independence in 1991, and the U.S.-Kazakh relationship has only improved and strengthened over the past three decades.

In 30 years, Kazakhstan has undergone significant changes—largely overseen by Kazakhstan's first President, Nursultan Nazarbayev. Early on, President Nazarbayev decided to close the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site and commit Kazakhstan to nuclear nonproliferation by dismantling the Soviet-era nuclear program. Despite pressure from other regional actors, one of the Republic's first policy decisions was to stand with the United States and commit itself to a nuclear free future. Kazakhstan remains as committed today—30 years later—to the issue of nuclear nonproliferation and continues to champion this cause globally.

Additionally, former President Nazarbayev took steps early in Kazakhstan's existence to align the nation with the West on economic issues—he was committed to creating a free market economy in Kazakhstan. From the start of the Republic, he understood the importance of U.S. investment” to not just the Re-

public, but also to the region. Thirty years later, Kazakhstan is a member of the World Trade Organization and has diligently worked to establish a hospitable business and investment climate for foreign investors. Kazakhstan became a member of the World Bank's International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) in 1992, and the nation's commitment to the rule of law has never been stronger. Today, U.S. companies are the largest source of direct foreign investment in Kazakhstan.

That's why I support Permanent Normal Trade Relations for Kazakhstan and have joined in a bipartisan effort to pass legislation this Congress to ensure that Kazakhstan is lifted from the Jackson-Vanik amendment—a law meant to target the Soviet Union, a country that no longer exists—and certainly shouldn't impact fellow WTO members. And I can think of no better time, as Kazakhstan celebrates its 30th birthday, to push for such a milestone. I encourage the House of Representatives to pass this legislation as soon as possible.

While I acknowledge that there is still much work to be done in Kazakhstan, I recognize that current President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has been highly focused on pursuing a series of internal reforms focused across almost all sectors of public life in Kazakhstan—from political and parliamentary reforms to updates to existing statutes intended to increase the openness of civil society. Despite external pressures from influential neighbors, Kazakhstan has remained a peaceful and stabilizing force in Central Asia for 30 years—this is a testament to the nation's commitment to democracy and to Western ideals. As the people of Kazakhstan celebrate this great milestone, I applaud this nation on its 30 years of independence and look forward to continuing to strengthen the U.S.—Kazakh bilateral relationship in the coming years.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL RANDALL P. MANTOOTH

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding military service of Lieutenant Colonel Randall P. Mantooth.

LTC Mantooth honorably served in various positrons of increasing responsibility throughout his unprecedented military career spanning over thirty-three years, in which he displayed remarkable service to his community, State, and Nation. LTC Mantooth has proven to be an invaluable leader within the Mississippi Army National Guard, consistently demonstrating professionalism, positive leadership, and responsibility to always consider the wellbeing of his soldiers, state employees and contractors.

LTC Mantooth obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from William Carey University, is a graduate of Air Assault School, Quartermaster Officer Basic & Advance Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Support Operations Course, Theater Sustainment Course, and Command and General Staff College. LTC Mantooth is married to Lana Mantooth, and they have 5 children, Chandler, Lacy, Joseph, Hannah, and Katharine.

LTC Mantooth's military assignments include company, battalion, and joint assignments. At company level he served as Housing officer and commander under garrison command. At battalion level he served as logistics officer and supply officer. Assignments at regiment and brigade level include Division Chief and Chief of Integrations. He currently serves as The Deputy Installation Commander at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

LTC Mantooth distinguished himself through exceptional meritorious service as the Deputy Installation Commander, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center. He is responsible for Master Cooperative Agreement, Integrated Training Area Management Program, Range and Training Land Program, and the Facility Management Program to include long/short range planning, scheduling, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and construction of real property for the largest National Guard training installation in the nation and First Army's mobilization force generation installation. Camp Shelby serves as a training installation for all branches of the military to include National Guard and Active DOD service components.

LTC Mantooth is a true American patriot who chose to answer the call to serve our country. It is an honor to recognize his unwavering dedication to our country and to call him my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BYRON DONALDS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed yesterday's vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 402.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF ELLEN BALIS

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ellen Balis, staff director of the House Budget Committee, who recently retired after 37 years of exceptional service to the Congress and the Executive branch.

Ellen began her career in Federal service at the White House Office of Management and Budget in 1984. She spent more than 20 years at OMB participating in the annual development of the President's Budget and advising senior administration officials on budget policy. In 2007, Ellen joined the Democratic staff of the House Budget Committee to serve as the senior budget analyst in charge of all the "numbers." In that role, she led development of the estimates for Democratic budget resolutions and advised Members and staff on budget policy, concepts, and scoring. She quickly demonstrated her invaluable expertise and became a go-to person for analysis and advice. In 2017, when I became the Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I asked her to serve

as our Staff Director. Her knowledge, temperament, strategic acumen, and drive for thorough and accurate analysis made her the obvious choice.

Ellen is one of the most respected budget experts in Washington. And during her tenure as staff director, she was instrumental in the development and passage of several key pieces of legislation, including the 2021 concurrent budget resolution and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. In fact, she delayed her planned retirement for several months to help shepherd these two critically important bills through final passage. She knew we had the chance to implement transformative change for our country, and she stayed so we could benefit from her expertise and experience. This selfless dedication to the work of the Congress and service to the American people are emblematic of Ellen's character and entire career. It is impossible to overstate what an asset Ellen was to the Budget Committee and House Leadership overall. To make public policy that does what it is intended to do, that truly delivers for the American people, everything must, quite literally, add up. And when it comes to budget tables and congressional calculations, there were numbers, and then there were Ellen's numbers. Hers were the gold standard. Always reliable, always dependable—like Ellen herself.

Over the years, Ellen impacted scores of Capitol Hill staffers who worked for and with her. From interns to senior analysts, her kind and steady leadership has left an indelible mark on all of those who learned from her and the example she set as an effective and dedicated public servant. I want to thank Ellen for her candid advice, thoughtful analysis and most importantly, her friendship. I wish her nothing but the best in her hard-earned and well-deserved retirement.

WELCOME, HUNTER TAYLOR
WILSON, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, happiest congratulations to my daughter-in-law and son, Dr. Julianne and Hunter Wilson on the birth of their new baby boy. Hunter Taylor Wilson, Jr., who was born at 2:00 a.m., on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, weighing 7 pounds and 14 ounces, measuring 17 inches long at Palmetto Health Richland Memorial Prisma Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina.

Additionally, congratulations to grateful Hunter's grandparents Norma Jett and John Jett of West Columbia, South Carolina, and my wife, Roxanne Wilson of Springdale, South Carolina. We are so grateful for this new addition to the Wilson family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONNECTED NATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Connected Nation. Beginning in 2001 at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky, Connected Nation has grown and evolved to the national non-profit it is today.

For the past 20 years, the people behind Connected Nation have devoted their efforts to expanding access to and the adoption of broadband and related technologies. The non-profit's work includes job skills training, research, mapping, and free connectivity and devices to at-risk youth.

The non-profit's mission statement reads in part, "Everyone belongs in a Connected Nation." Closing the digital divide is critical for Kentuckians and Americans across the country. Federal and private partnerships are key as we work to expand broadband access. Congratulations to Connected Nation on more than 20 years serving communities across the country.

CONGRATULATING LARRY J.
MILLER

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry J. Miller on his retirement after fifty years of service to PeoplesBank, which is headquartered in York County, Pennsylvania and operates branches throughout Pennsylvania's Eleventh District. In 1971, Larry started his career at PeoplesBank as a management trainee and just a decade later, he became the bank's president, making him the youngest person in Pennsylvania to hold such a position. Larry's hard work and dedication brought him further success as he took on the role of Chief Executive Officer for both PeoplesBank and its parent company, Codorus Valley Bancorp, serving in each of those positions for thirty-five years.

Under Larry's leadership, PeoplesBank opened twenty-five new branches, created mortgage and trust divisions, and grew to hold more than \$2 billion in assets. Larry has similarly taken on leadership and community service roles, including positions as Chairman of the Board of Directors for several nonprofits, such as the United Way of York County and the Cultural Alliance of York County.

We thank Larry for all that he has done for the people of Pennsylvania's Eleventh District and wish him a restful and well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR
AARON GADBOIS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Aaron Gadbois, who will be leaving my office after a year of distinguished service to the people of Texas Congressional District 12.

Aaron joined my office in January 2021 through the Department of Defense (DOD) Legislative Fellowship Program. This highly selective program assigns servicemembers to congressional offices for one year, allowing them the opportunity to gain valuable legislative experience and contribute to the work of Congress. Demand for DOD Fellows always outstrips supply, so offices must compete to be assigned one. I was lucky to be assigned a Fellow of Aaron's caliber.

Aaron has a tremendous record of service. At 17, he enlisted in the Air National Guard and was assigned to the 114th Fighter Wing, South Dakota Air National Guard, before later joining the "Capital Guardians" of the 113th Wing, District of Columbia Air National Guard, where he earned his commission. In recent years, he served in missions to the Korean Peninsula, the Philippine Islands and Poland, and after completing his service in my office, Aaron will return to the 113th Wing, where he will continue his service to our Nation.

Aaron is one of six children of Barb and Larry Gadbois—in a family that epitomizes the Air National Guard's citizen service member ideal. Remarkably, all six Gadbois siblings served, or are currently serving, in the Air National Guard. A proud South Dakotan, Aaron loves the outdoors. His passion for hunting and fishing is clear to anyone who has taken a virtual meeting with him and noticed the trophies that adorn his home office.

With a Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Southwest Minnesota State University, he has earned impressive civilian qualifications that have served him well from the private sector to his service as a full-time, active duty member of the Air National Guard.

The Appropriations Committee can be a daunting environment for a Fellow to enter, but Aaron took to his work methodically and enthusiastically, relishing the opportunity to expand his knowledge and contribute to the legislative process. Aaron had a leg up in his wife Stephanie, a veteran Committee staff member. I suspect she may be partially responsible for his quick learning curve in the intricacies of the appropriations process. Additionally, Texas's 12th District is home to numerous DOD priorities including the F-35 program, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, and thousands of Active, Guard, and Reserve servicemembers. Aaron quickly built a relationship with these entities, mastered their issues, and was essential in helping me fight for them.

Aaron made a great impact on his fellow staff members. He brought to my office a level head, hard-earned wisdom, and a genuine desire to mentor and learn from his coworkers. He integrated seamlessly into the team, joining us for our staff retreat and getting to know

not just his colleagues in my Washington office, but the district-based staff in Fort Worth as well. Aaron will be missed for his work, but even more for his presence as a colleague.

On behalf of Texas' 12th Congressional District, I offer Aaron a heartfelt thank you and best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR INTERIM APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS AND RELATED AGENCIES WITH RESPECT TO ANY FISCAL YEAR FOR WHICH APPROPRIATIONS ARE NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR SUCH COURTS AND AGENCIES

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would exempt from federal government shutdowns the federal and independent civil and criminal justice system law enforcement agencies that are exclusively or primarily federally funded but have exclusive jurisdiction over District of Columbia matters. This bill is modeled on a provision I have been able to get enacted each year since the 2013 federal government shutdown to exempt the D.C. government from federal government shutdowns.

This bill would exempt the following agencies from federal government shutdowns: Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for D.C., D.C. Courts, D.C. Public Defender Service, D.C. Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission and D.C. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. With one exception, these agencies are not under the District's control and are funded exclusively by the federal government. The D.C. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is an independent agency within the D.C. government with federal members that is primarily, but not exclusively, funded by the federal government. These agencies provide critical local services to the District, including law enforcement, and should continue to function during a federal government shutdown.

Each of these agencies has been adversely affected by federal government shutdowns, including canceled services and furloughed employees. My bill would allow these agencies to continue to function during a federal government shutdown, in much the same way that the D.C. government itself is now exempt from shutting down during a federal government shutdown. I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

HONORING MR. SOHUM PAWAR

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an essential member of our team that worked to evacuate vulnerable Afghans during the fall of Kabul, Mr. Sohumi Pawar.

Originally from East Hanover, New Jersey, for many years, Mr. Pawar has worn many hats—scientist, engineer, and policy researcher. Since graduating with honors from little-known schools such as Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he's worked on cybersecurity, climate, and energy policy at the White House, assisted negotiators at the U.S. Department of State working on UN climate talks, and written speeches for the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Beyond public service, he's also worked as a cyber threat intelligence analyst, assessed clean energy startups for a climate-focused venture capital fund, and developed policy and strategy for an advanced nuclear reactor startup. He also has experience in journalism, conducting research for David Sanger, the prominent national journalist for the New York Times and his bestselling book chronicling the rise of cyber warfare.

The knowledge and experience Mr. Pawar acquired in all of these ventures were heavily relied upon when he joined our cobbled-together effort working to evacuate vulnerable Afghans from Kabul. For several sleepless nights, he was part of our tiger team—responsible for gathering the required information for the group of Afghans, verifying the authenticity of documents, and supporting evacuees with letters of support of our own.

Our mission depended on a broad cross-section of skills and traits, from perseverance to grit. Very few people could have handled the flood of information that our office received during those frantic days, and even fewer as quickly and efficiently as Sohumi did. We needed Pawar's to succeed, and it is thanks to him that we did.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Sohumi Pawar for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul. For his meticulous record keeping, for his flexibility and perseverance, and for his dogged pursuit of any lead that would benefit the mission, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

HONORING RAVI S. PATEL

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ravi Patel, a valued member of our effort to evacuate Afghan nationals from Kabul to Tirana, Albania.

Mr. Patel has worked in several areas for several key players in the international arena, working as an advisor to former Secretary of Defense William J. Perry as well as serving as the consulting advisor for the executive director of the UN's Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization. As a graduate student, he was the executive director of the Stanford University U.S.-Russia Forum, where he put on conferences, in Moscow and on Stanford's campus, in order to bring together students and young leaders from both countries and further the bilateral relationship.

Mr. Patel has always believed in the power of thinking outside the box to find solutions.

The buses that he sourced were ultimately used to carry more than 100 individuals to safety in their hour of greatest need. As they made it through winding Kabul streets until they made it inside the gate at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Mr. Patel was in close coordination with our team. He was Lt. Gen. McMaster's point person on our joint effort to evacuate them on a flight out of Kabul as well, helping to compile the flight manifest that airlifted men, women, and children—some as young as 2 years old—away from danger.

In fact, when one of our evacuees, a four-year old with a severe congenital heart defect, needed urgent medical attention, Mr. Patel sprang into action. He gathered letters of support from some of the top pediatric doctors and surgeons in order to bring her to the U.S. for treatment. Thanks to his relentless pursuit chasing down leads through every available channel, the little girl and her family were granted humanitarian parole and admitted to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Ravi Patel for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his resourcefulness amidst the fog of uncertainty and the chaos of the evacuation as well as for his tireless work in the weeks since, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

HONORING ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERVISOR WILMA CHAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today, alongside Representative JUDY CHU, to honor the life of the late Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, who tragically passed on November 3, 2021. We extend our deepest condolences to her children, grandchildren, family, staff, and loved ones, and to the people of Alameda County who she served so well during her 30-year career in public service.

Supervisor Chan was born in Boston, MA, after her parents immigrated there from China. She attended public schools and went on to receive her bachelor's degree in history from Wellesley College and her master's degree in education policy from Stanford University.

She was a trailblazer throughout her career. She was the first Asian American to serve on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, to which she was elected in 1994, and later became the first Asian American and first woman to hold the position of Majority Leader in the California State Assembly, where she represented the East Bay from 2000 to 2006. In 2010, voters reelected her to the Alameda Board of Supervisors, where she continued to serve until her tragic death.

Supervisor Chan's unyielding commitment to the wellbeing of children, families, and her most vulnerable constituents prevailed throughout her legislative career. During her tenure in the State Assembly, she authored groundbreaking legislation that successfully made California the first state to ban toxic flame retardants, which resulted in a significant decrease in how often those chemicals

are detected in women's breast milk. During her time on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, she brokered a crucial deal to stop the San Leandro Hospital from closing, effectively saving jobs, keeping an emergency department running, and strengthening our community's healthcare infrastructure.

Supervisor Chan was a great leader for the East Bay and the entire state, a consummate public servant, and a true friend. She embodied service, uplifted the vulnerable, and used her platform for the betterment of all. She said, "My goal is really to make sure that children and families have everything that they need to be successful and to have a good quality of life." That is the precise sentiment by which she served and lived.

In her memory, let us continue the fight to remove systemic barriers and hurdles so that all members of our community can thrive and flourish. Supervisor Chan's legacy should continue to inspire us to keep up the work for justice and equality to which she dedicated her life.

As California Members of Congress, we thank Wilma for her service and honor her as an ardent champion for healthcare, education, children, seniors, and justice in our community. May Wilma's soul rest in peace and in power, and may her great legacy be a reminder of the work for justice and equality that remains. May we always honor Supervisor Chan, by taking the baton and rising to the occasion, as she so lovingly did, in service to her fellow human beings.

On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of California, I honor Supervisor Wilma Chan for her service and dedication.

HONORING DAVE KILCULLEN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a former soldier and diplomat, and now author and scholar, Mr. David Kilcullen.

For both his homeland, Australia, and for the United States, Mr. Kilcullen has enjoyed a long career in national security and counter-insurgency. After commissioning as a lieutenant with the Australian Army, he would go on to serve in a number of operational, strategic, command, and staff positions both in the Royal Australian Infantry Corps and Australian Defence Force. In 2005, after leaving active duty, he began working with our State Department in the Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism.

Working in the field led Mr. Kilcullen to Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Horn of Africa and Southeast Asia, and he would ultimately assist with the drafting of Army's Field Manual on counter-insurgency. He advised senior officials, from General David Petraeus to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to NATO headquarters, on addressing the threat posed by insurgencies and guerilla warfare. He's both a brilliant thought-leader as well as a man of action who supports aid agencies, non-government organizations, and local communities in conflict and disaster-affected regions around the world.

Simply put, Madam Speaker, Mr. Kilcullen's expertise is second to none, and when I need-

ed a trusted partner for a mission as complex as the evacuation of Afghan allies from Kabul, he was exactly the right person at the right time to pull it off. He personifies the Aussie notion of "mateship," that unbreakable bond of friendship, loyalty, and shared purpose.

Without Dave's help, I'm not sure we would have been able to wrangle the caravan of buses and make sure they made it safely through the wire. When we were in the thick of it, we relied on his expertise and his determination, and only because of both were we able to prevent our Afghan allies—and the lives of so many others—from being lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Dave Kilcullen for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his unique ability to think outside the box to obtain safe passage for vulnerable Afghans and for his calm demeanor and resourcefulness in the midst of chaos and uncertainty, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

HONORING AMERICAN HEROES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, 2021 will tragically be remembered for the murders at Kabul International Airport of American Heroes:

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David Espinoza, 20, of Rio Bravo, Texas;

Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole Gee, 23, of Sacramento, California;

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Hoover, 31, of Salt Lake City, Utah;

Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Knauss, 23, of Corryton, Tennessee;

Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, California;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, 20, Jackson, Wyoming;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, California;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikoui, 20, of Norco, California;

Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan Page, 23, of Omaha, Nebraska;

Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo, 25, Lawrence, Massachusetts;

Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto Sanchez, 22, Logansport, Indiana;

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared Schmitz, 20, of St. Charles, Missouri; and

Navy Hospitalman Maxton Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, Ohio.

As a military parent of four sons who have served overseas, I cannot imagine what their grief-stricken families are going through during this Christmas season.

The decision of the President and the Vice-President in April to abandon the people of Afghanistan and appease the Taliban/AI-Qaeda terrorists led to the deaths of these American Heroes.

Sadly, this most catastrophic course of action will clearly shift terrorist suicide bombers from the Afghanistan safe haven to American neighborhoods.

The Global War on Terrorism continues with murderous attacks in New Zealand, Norway,

the United Kingdom, Uganda, Israel, and at Afghan Mosques.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone, and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that "the United States ended 20 years of war." They will gruesomely discover that now the targets are here at home.

In conclusion, God Bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

HONORING JESSICA GARRELS

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an essential member of our team who helped us identify—and eventually evacuate—vulnerable Afghans after the fall of Kabul, Ms. Jessica Garrels of Michigan State University.

For nearly a decade, Ms. Garrels has worked in project management, including direct oversight and implementation of humanitarian assistance programs. Through her work, she's helped vulnerable communities around the world—growing their institutional and human capacity, building resilience, and expanding school nutrition and education initiatives. Community organizing is ingrained in Ms. Garrels' DNA—she's also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger, a director with the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, and senior manager with Catholic Relief Services in places like Burkina Faso, Mali, and Laos.

It's this knack for finding solutions that led her to play such a key role in our mission to evacuate Afghans affiliated with Michigan State University when Kabul fell to the Taliban. In early August, she was part of the team that submitted initial visa applications for staff and scholars associated with the university's Grain Research and Innovation (GRAIN) program. However, when the evacuation window shrunk from a few months to a matter of days, she sprang into action. With desperate pleas for help flooding her inbox, she turned them into an outreach campaign to contact Members of Congress and anyone else who could help.

Thankfully, Ms. Garrels was able to join our ragtag effort—whereupon she immediately set out to gather critical information from GRAIN scientists and their immediate families. When our group of evacuees made it onto a caravan of buses and began their perilous journey to safety, Ms. Garrels worked around the clock to handle bureaucratic obstacles as they came up. I have no doubt that thanks to her quick and efficient response, lives were saved that would have otherwise been lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Ms. Jessica Garrels for her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For her skill in handling logistical challenges as they came up and for fast-tracking the requests for funding that allowed vulnerable MSU-affiliated Afghans to make it on the flight, I submit these words—

may they stand as a tribute to her dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

FIRING OF TENNESSEE TEACHER

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I was saddened when I read this morning about an incident concerning a teacher and a school board in East Tennessee. Matthew Hawn was fired for teaching about white privilege to his largely white classes of Contemporary Issues students in Sullivan Central High School in Kingsport, Tennessee. Mr. Hawn used both historical and contemporary examples, including the recent trial of Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin for the death of George Floyd. The General Assembly of Tennessee recently outlawed teachers from teaching critical race theory or ideas that any race is "inherently privileged, racist, sexist or oppressive" and backed the law with financial penalties. This sort of legislating is a throwback to an earlier period of intolerance and fear of history and science. Our state's reputation was stained in the 1920s by the prosecution of Dayton, Tennessee, schoolteacher John Scopes for teaching evolution. I had hoped those days were long behind us. I guess not. Confronting painful periods in our country's history—such as slavery, segregation, the Trail of Tears, women denied voting rights—will make our students more tolerant, aware and worldly. I am deeply troubled by what has happened to Mr. Hawn and I hope decision makers will restore him to his place in the classroom where he can challenge young minds with new ideas.

HONORING MAJOR HOLLY GRAMKOW

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an essential member of my team who leveraged her military logistics experience to evacuate our Afghan allies to safety, Major Holly Gramkow.

Since 2009, Major Gramkow has been a commissioned officer in the United States Air Force. She's a graduate of the University of Portland Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps and has over a decade of on-the-ground experience working on F-16, A-10 and C-130J airframes.

Throughout her military career, she has held positions as Fabrication Flight Commander, Aircraft Maintenance Unit Officer in Charge, and Director of Operations; as well as an Exchange Officer position with the Chilean Air Force as their Chief of Propulsion for F-16s. Major Gramkow has also served as an Aide-de-Camp and most recently as Branch Chief for Legacy Fighter Sustainment, Headquarters Air Force. She's also the Chief Financial Officer for the Logistics Officer Association, a non-profit that supports the professional development of her fellow officers.

However, it is during her time with our office as a Defense Fellow where we've seen her re-

lentless commitment to others firsthand. Despite limited previous experience with the legislative branch, she has taken to the work like a natural—leading key initiatives on veterans issues, military supply chains, and the National Defense Authorization Act. Any one of these areas would take up the full bandwidth of a seasoned staffer, but she's been able to handle the competing priorities with skill and aplomb.

Our team was immensely fortunate to have Major Gramkow on staff when we were called to action and I am beyond thankful that we were able to rely on her skill to lead our effort in evacuating vulnerable Afghans. Despite being 2,000 miles away from Washington, D.C. and nearly 8,000 miles from Kabul at times during our mission, she made a difference at a time when for so many, things looked so grim. Our team owes an immense debt of gratitude to Major Gramkow—with the grit of Rosie the Riveter and the resourcefulness of her logistics officer training, she is truly a living embodiment of the core values of the Air Force: "integrity first, service before self, excellence in all we do."

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Major Holly Gramkow for her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For her efforts to jump into the breach and serve around the clock as staff lead of our operation, and for marshaling the full weight of our office, actions which are in keeping with highest traditions of our military and our Nation, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to her dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

SUPPORT FOR HEALTH BILLS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of seven bills that originated in the Health Subcommittee of Energy and Commerce which I have the privilege to chair. These bipartisan bills address the following: health threats to newborns including stillbirth, newborn hearing loss, and birth defects; improving cardiac care and oral health literacy; providing needed mental health support to doctors and other health care professionals; and improving diversity in the allied health workforce.

H.R. 5487, the SHINE for Autumn Act of 2021 seeks to reduce the impact of stillbirth by increasing research and data collection to address the tragedy of the 24,000 babies who are stillborn in the U.S. every year. I thank my colleagues Reps. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, MARKWAYNE MULLIN, and KATHY CASTOR for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 5561, the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act of 2021 reauthorizes programs at the Health Resources and Services Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders to address hearing loss in newborns. I thank my colleagues Reps. BRETT GUTHRIE and DORIS MATSUI for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 5551, the Improving the Health of Children Act reauthorizes the National Center on

Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. This critical center at the CDC helps advance the health of babies born with birth defects, developmental disabilities, blood disorders and other disabilities. I thank my colleagues Reps. BUDDY CARTER and LORI TRAHAN for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 1193, the Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy Act funds NIH and CDC research and public education for valvular heart disease. The bill is named in honor of Carol Leavell Barr, the wife of Rep. ANDY BARR, who died last year of sudden cardiac arrest, and I thank him for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 1667, the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act is named after Dr. Lorna Breen, an emergency department doctor who died by suicide last year. Physicians have the highest suicide rate of any profession, and this legislation provides grant funding for suicide-prevention and peer-support at healthcare facilities. It also helps ensure healthcare professionals can ask for mental health help without facing negative consequences in their careers. I thank Reps. SUSAN WILD and DAVID MCKINLEY for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 3320, the Allied Health Workforce Diversity Act of 2021 establishes a grant program to improve diversity in the physical therapy, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, audiology, and speech-language pathology professions. I thank Reps. BOBBY RUSH and MARKWAYNE MULLIN for authoring this legislation.

H.R. 4555, the Oral Health Literacy and Awareness Act of 2021 directs the Health Resources and Services Administration to conduct a public education campaign to improve awareness of oral health. I thank Reps. TONY CÁRDENAS and GUS BILIRAKIS for authoring this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to vote for these bills and I thank the members of the House Health Subcommittee and the bipartisan sponsors of each bill for their good work.

HONORING SCHALK SPIES

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our man on the ground and a key member of the team during our operation to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul, Mr. Schalk Spies.

Service is ingrained in Mr. Schalk's DNA—he served as a captain in the South African National Defense Force, commanding several pathfinder and parachute Special Forces units on missions focused on border protection, surveillance and reconnaissance. Since leaving the military, he's worked as a security and operations manager with over a decade of experience in private sector risk management for international clients. With his top-notch professionalism and attention to detail, he's been relied upon time and time again to oversee all aspects of operations and logistics for U.S. government and non-governmental organization stakeholders.

When we needed someone to make sure our MSU-affiliated Afghan allies got to the

right place at the right time, we turned to Mr. Spies to keep them safe. His deep knowledge as a combat rescue medic and survival expert was key to our success—and no doubt reassured frightened men, women, and children as they traveled to the airport to escape the threats to their life. Despite a 25-hour harrowing journey as our buses made their way through Taliban checkpoints and stray gunfire, we didn't lose a single member of our group. Mr. Schalk's dedicated work as their security detail saved lives and for that I am immensely grateful.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Schalk Spies for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his assistance in providing security on the ground for vulnerable individuals in Kabul as they attempted to make it through the airport gates and for his actions that kept them safe in their hour of greatest need, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

TRIBUTE TO THE RT. REV. DR.
ALPHONZA AND MRS. HESTER
GADSDEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two people who have dedicated their lives to their church and their community. Bishop Ordinary, Rt. Rev. Dr. Alphonza Gadsden, Sr. and Mrs. Hester Gadsden are retiring after a lifetime of service to the Reformed Episcopal Church.

Bishop Gadsden, a native of St. Stephen, South Carolina, is the son of the late Silas and Leola Gadsden. An honors graduate of Russellville High School, he valued education and earned both a bachelor's degree from Limestone University in Gaffney, South Carolina and a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine University in Due West, South Carolina. Bishop Gadsden went on to receive his Doctor of Divinity from the Commission on Theological Education of the Reformed Episcopal Seminary in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Gadsden served his country in the United States Army during the Vietnam War, reaching the rank of Sergeant and receiving numerous military medals and honors. Bishop Gadsden also served his country with a historic 39-year career in the United States Postal Service: He retired from the Postal Service as the first African American Postmaster in the history of Kingstree, South Carolina.

Mrs. Gadsden is a native of Hemingway, South Carolina and is the daughter of the late Isaac Daniel and Sallie Elizabeth Brown. She graduated from Hemingway High School the year South Carolina public schools desegregated and later earned a bachelor's degree from Limestone University. Following her calling to work with young people, Mrs. Gadsden received an Education Certification from Coastal Carolina University and a Master of Education from Charleston Southern University. Additionally, she pursued a Master of Divinity from Cummins Theological Memorial Seminary in Summerville. Mrs. Gadsden re-

tired as Principal of Kingstree Magnet Middle School in the Williamsburg County School District after 36 years as an educator.

The Gadsdens were both raised in the Christian faith. Bishop Gadsden grew up in the Reformed Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Gadsden was baptized in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Throughout their adult lives, they followed Bishop Gadsden's service in the Reformed Episcopal Church's Diocese of the Southeast.

Bishop Gadsden began his ministry as Vicar and Rector of Liberty RE Church in Jamestown, South Carolina where he served for 17 years. During his tenure, spiritual advancement and membership increased significantly and the renovations improved the sanctuary and church building.

As a minister in the Diocese of the Southeast, Bishop Gadsden was elected to the Standing Committee of the Diocese, where he served for several years and was later elected to serve as President. As the President of the Standing Committee, he led the Diocese for more than a year after the death of the late Rt. Rev. James C. West and was subsequently elected and consecrated Bishop in the Reformed Episcopal Church on November 17, 2007.

Bishop Gadsden served the Diocese for more than 14 years. Under his leadership, the Diocese added eight Clergy members, reformed its means of financial support, refurbished all its properties, eliminated its debts, and added two additional parishes.

Bishop Gadsden served the National Reformed Episcopal Church in various capacities. As a Clergyman, he was elected to the General Council of the Church and served on the General Committee as a Bishop of the Church. He also served as the Vice Chairman of the General Council until his retirement. On the Ecumenical level, Bishop Gadsden was one of the original organizers and signatories of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) at its inception in 2009. Currently, he serves as Co-Chairman of the Provincial Council of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

When her husband served as pastor/rector, Mrs. Gadsden served as Sunday school teacher, a choir member, and was instrumental in physical improvements at Liberty RE Church. During Bishop Gadsden's tenure as Bishop, Mrs. Gadsden served on the diocesan level as treasurer of the Sunday School Convention, a member of the Missionary Society, chairperson of the Committee on Women's Work, and president of the Ministers' Wives and Widows Alliance. In the National Reformed Episcopal Church, she served on the Doctrine and Worship Committee and on the Committee on Women's Ministry.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in commending Bishop and Mrs. Alphonza and Hester Gadsden for their years of service to the Reformed Episcopal Church and to the community of Williamsburg County in South Carolina. They have fulfilled the biblical directive found in the Book of Micah, "to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."

HONORING RICHARD MAC NAMEE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of our team who was instrumental in the safe evacuation of Afghan allies and partners alike, Mr. Richard Mac Namee.

Service is ingrained in Mr. Mac Namee's DNA—as a British Army officer, his service included the Household Division's Scots Guards as well as being an operator and commander in the United Kingdom's Special Forces. He's been deployed to numerous locations around the world, including extended operational tours of duty in Germany, Northern Ireland, and the Middle East during the Operation Desert Storm.

From 2009 to 2011, Mr. Mac Namee was recalled to military service during the U.S. surge in Afghanistan. While the details of his actions as part of a Special Operations Task Force remain classified, they were conducted in extremely hostile environments and were considered pivotal to the success of the campaign being conducted by U.S. and NATO forces. For his command of operations in the interests of national, security, including being seconded to the U.K.'s Security Service (MI5), he was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service.

After retiring from the military, Mr. Mac Namee was appointed as an associate professor at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. His expertise in counterterrorism, counterinsurgency, intelligence operations, covert operations, nuclear security and cybersecurity led him to teach graduate classes to aspiring national security professionals.

During our operation to evacuate vulnerable Afghans, Mr. Mac Namee's skills to coordinate the logistics of a caravan into the airport and to help run a second caravan of buses was instrumental to our success. When we were in the thick of it, we relied on his expertise and his determination, and only because of both were we able to prevent our Afghan allies—and the lives of so many others—from being lost.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Richard Mac Namee for his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty in our effort to evacuate Afghan allies from Kabul and support them in their new life. For his grit and determination to get the caravan of buses set up and going and for his relentless commitment to the mission until it was successfully completed, I submit these words—may they stand as a tribute to his dedicated service when the moment called for it most.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose

of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 9, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 14

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine stablecoins, focusing on how they work, how they are used, and their risks.

SD-538

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donald Armin Blome, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Eric M. Garcetti, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of India, and Amy Gutmann, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

SD-106/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert McKinnon Califf, of North Carolina, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-G50

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Enoch T. Ebong, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency, Oren E. Whyche-Shaw, of Maryland, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank, and other pending nominations.

SD-G50/VTC

DECEMBER 15

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine disaster recovery assistance, focusing on authorization of the Community Development Block Grant—Disaster Recovery Program.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 46, to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, S. 3196, to enhance the policies, procedures, and training for midshipmen at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, an original bill entitled, "Omnibus Tourism Act", and the nominations of Alan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Jed David Kolko, of California, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Viqar Ahmad, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Commerce, and Mary T. Boyle, of Maryland, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Marc R. Stanley, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, Rashad Hussain, of Virginia, to be Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom, Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be an Assistant Secretary (Economic and Business Affairs), Thomas Barrett, of Wisconsin, to be Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Erik D. Ramanathan, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, Scott Miller, of Colorado, to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein, and Jamie L. Harpootlian, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and other pending calendar business.

SD-106

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

11:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 3099, to amend title 44, United States Code, to establish the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program within the General Services Administration, S. 2932, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building", H.R. 767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the "Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building", H.R. 1170, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 League in Irvine, California, as the "Tuskegee Airman Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Friend Memorial Post Office Building", H.R. 1444, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 132 North Loudoun Street, Suite 1 in Winchester, Virginia, as the "Patsy Cline Post Office", H.R. 3210, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1905 15th Street in Boulder, Colorado, as the "Officer Eric H. Talley Post Office Building", and the nominations of Loren L. AliKhan, and John P. Howard III, both to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Adrienne Jennings Noti, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. airline industry.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine the impact of consolidation and monopoly power on American innovation.

SD-226